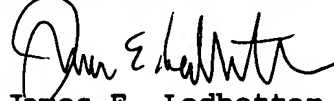


REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment amends claims 4-11, 14 and 16 and adds new claim 17 to correct improper multiple dependencies.

Early and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



James E. Ledbetter
Registration No. 28,732

Date: February 11, 2005

JEL/spp

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. L7725.05101
STEVENS, DAVIS, MILLER & MOSHER, L.L.P.
Suite 850
1615 L Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
Telephone: (202) 785-0100
Facsimile: (202) 408-5200